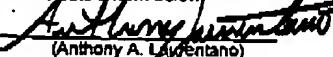


I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (571) 273-8300 at MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 12, 2006

Signature: 

(Anthony A. Laurentano)

Docket No.: CTH-302ARCE  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Patent Application of:**  
**Henri V. Azibert**

**Application No.: 10/791515**

**Confirmation No.: 2755**

**Filed: March 1, 2004**

**Art Unit: 3673**

**For: BALANCED MECHANICAL SEAL  
ASSEMBLY**

**Examiner: Vishal Patel**

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION (37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.116)**

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated July 12 2005 (Paper No. 070805), finally rejecting claims 1 and 4-7, and further to the Amendment and Response to the Final Office Action filed October 12, 2005, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.